No. 2008/243

Tuesday, 16 December 2008

Journal

of the United Nations

Programme of meetings and agenda

Official meetings

Tuesday, 16 December 2008

Security Council

11 a.m. . . . . 6045th meeting . . . . . Security Council Chamber

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

3 p.m. . . . . 6046th meeting . . . . . Security Council Chamber

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. The situation in Somalia

Security Council

The Security Council will hold an open debate on Thursday, 18 December 2008, in the Security Council Chamber, in connection with the agenda item "The situation in the Middle East". Member States wishing to inscribe their names on the list of speakers should contact the Secretariat (room S-3520; fax 1 (212) 963-7878; tel. 1 (212) 963-5258), from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. *Delegations are also kindly requested to limit their statements to no more than five minutes.*

08-64628

General Assembly

Sixty-third session

Main Committees

Fifth Committee

10 a.m. . . . . 24th meeting . . . . . Conference Room 3

Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 . . . . . [118]

Report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council (A/63/346, A/63/346/Corr.1, A/63/346/Add.1, A/63/346/Add.1/Corr.1, A/63/346/Add.2, A/63/346/Add.3, A/63/346/Add.4, A/63/346/Add.5 and A/63/593)

Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under section 3 and 32, related to the provision of an integrated headquarters facility for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq, in Baghdad (A/62/828 and A/63/601)

Introduction and general discussion

Morning[1]–1 p.m. . . . . Informal consultations (closed) . . . . . Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 118 (Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009: Report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council (A/63/346, A/63/346/Corr.1, A/63/346/Add.1, A/63/346/Add.1/Corr.1, A/63/346/Add.2, A/63/346/Add.3, A/63/346/Add.4, A/63/346/Add.5 and A/63/593))

3–3.30 p.m. . . . . Informal consultations (closed) . . . . . Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 126 (United Nations pension system (A/63/9, A/63/363, A/C.5/63/2 and A/63/556))

3.30–5 p.m. . . . . Informal consultations (closed) . . . . . Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda items 130 and 131 (Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994; and Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (A/63/558, A/63/559, A/63/595, A/62/809, A/62/7/Add.38, A/62/681, A/62/734, A/63/5/Add.11, A/63/5/Add.12, A/62/30 (Chapter II) and A/62/30/Corr.1))

5–6 p.m. . . . . Informal consultations (closed) . . . . . Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 118 (Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009: Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under section 3 and 32, related to the provision of an integrated headquarters facility for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq, in Baghdad (A/62/828 and A/63/601))

[1] To be held following the adjournment of the 24th meeting of the Committee.

General Assembly

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

10.30 a.m.–1 p.m. . . . . Closed meeting . . . . . Conference Room 10

3–6 p.m. . . . . Closed meeting . . . . . Conference Room 10

Executive session

Convention on the Rights of the Child

Meeting of the States Parties
Twelfth Meeting

10 a.m.–1 p.m. . . . . 18th meeting . . . . . Conference Room 4

3–6 p.m. . . . . 19th meeting . . . . . Conference Room 4

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the Meeting by the representative of the Secretary-General
2. Election of the Chairperson
3. Adoption of the agenda (CRC/SP/39)
4. Election of other officers of the Meeting
5. Election of 9 members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in accordance with article 43 on the Convention of the Rights of the Child as amended (see General Assembly resolution 50/155, CRC/SP/40, CRC/SP/40/Add.1 and CRC/SP/40/Add.2)
6. Other matters

[*Note*: In the recent past, meetings of States Parties have been substantially delayed or cancelled due to a lack of a quorum. In order to avoid such occurrences, it is imperative for States Parties to be present at the appointed time for the meeting.]

Informal meetings on draft proposals convened by delegations

Tuesday, 16 December 2008

General Assembly

Informal consultations on the draft resolution entitled "2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa" (under agenda item 43) (convened by the delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania)

3–6 p.m. . . . . Closed meeting . . . . . Conference Room 9

Other meetings

The information below is reproduced as received and does not imply any opinion or endorsement by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Tuesday, 16 December 2008

Non-Aligned Movement: Working Group on Human Rights (Guatemala draft declaration and programme of action)

10 a.m.–1 p.m. . . . . Closed meeting . . . . . Conference Room D

3–6 p.m. . . . . Closed meeting . . . . . Conference Room D

Group of 77 (on Fifth Committee matters)

1.15–2.45 p.m. . . . . Closed meeting . . . . . Conference Room 5

Other activities

The information below is reproduced as received and does not imply any opinion or endorsement by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Tuesday, 16 December 2008

Special events on the occasion of the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation on the theme "Eyes on South-South development solutions" (organized by the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, UNDP)

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber:
Launch of the Global South-South Development Expo and leaders' round table

From 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 1:
Round table on "Leveraging market solutions for human development"

[All are invited to attend. For further information, please contact Ms. Dingding Sun, Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, UNDP (tel. 1 (212) 906-5819; e-mail dingding.sun@undp.org); or visit the Web site of the Special Unit <http://ssc.undp.org>.]

Seminar on "The real estate and financial crisis: Causes, effects and impacts on development" (organized by the Economic Commission for Europe and its Real Estate Market Advisory Group, in cooperation with the International Real Estate Federation)

From 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 8.

[The Deputy Secretary-General will make opening remarks. All are invited to attend. For further information, please visit <www.un.org/regionalcommissions/>; or contact the Regional Commissions New York Office (tel. 1 (212) 963-2348 or 963-8088; e-mail silvern@un.org).]

Press conferences

The schedule below is tentative; up-to-date information can be obtained at <www.un.org/News/ossg/conf.htm>.

Tuesday, 16 December 2008

Room S-226

12 noon . . . . . Press briefing by the Spokesperson

Forthcoming official meetings

General Assembly
Sixty-third session

Main Committees

Fifth Committee

The Fifth Committee will hold its 25th meeting on Wednesday 17, December 2008, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 3. Informal consultations (closed) will be held following the adjournment of the 25th meeting, and at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 5.

General Assembly
Security Council

Peacebuilding Commission
Third session

Organizational Committee

An informal meeting (closed) of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission will be held on Wednesday, 17 December 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. All Member States are invited to attend.

General Assembly

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

The informal open-ended working group on enhanced rapidly deployable capacities of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations will hold an informal meeting on Wednesday, 17 December 2008, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 4.

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund
First regular session 2009

The first regular session 2009 of the Executive Board of UNDP and of UNFPA will be held from Monday, 19, to Thursday, 22 January 2009, in Conference Room 2. The provisional agenda, list of documents and work plan for the session are contained in document DP/2009/L.1. Member States as well as Observers and other organizations attending the session are requested to e-mail their credentials to the secretariat of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board (marcela.romero@undp.org) or by fax (1 (212) 906-5634), as early as possible, but *no later than 12 January 2009*. The session will be preceded by an informal consultation on matters to be taken up at the first regular session of the Board, on Wednesday, 7 January, from 11 a.m. to 12 noon in Conference Room 5.

The joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP will take place on Friday, 23, and Monday, 26 January 2009, in Conference Room 2. According to decision 2006/14, the Board decided that prior to the convening of the joint meeting, the new Bureau should be selected, and therefore there will be a formal meeting of the Executive Board of UNDP and of UNFPA, on Friday, 9 January, from 11 a.m. to 12 noon in Conference Room 5.

[redacted] convened

General Assembly

Informal consultation on the draft resolution entitled "Agriculture development and food security" (under agenda item 107) (convened by the delegations of Chile, Egypt and Indonesia)

Wednesday, 17 December 2008, from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room A.

[redacted]

The information below is reproduced as received and does not imply any opinion or endorsement by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Non-Aligned Movement: Coordinating Bureau

Wednesday, 17 December 2008, from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

Western European and Other States Group (monthly meeting)

Friday, 19 December 2008, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 7.

Asian Group

Friday, 19 December 2008, from 3 to 5 p.m. in Conference Room 2.

Forthcoming other activities

The information below is reproduced as received and does not imply any opinion or endorsement by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Global seminar on "Languages matter! Linguistic diversity, globalization and development", on the occasion of the International Year of Languages (2008) (organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Department of Public Information (DPI))

Wednesday, 17 December 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 1; and

Thursday, 18 December 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 1.

[All are invited to attend. For further information, please contact Mr. Rodney Pascual, DPI (tel. 1 (212) 963-2363; e-mail pascual@un.org).]

Special events on the occasion of the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation on the theme "Eyes on South-South development solutions" (organized by the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, UNDP)

Wednesday, 17 December 2008

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber:
Round table on "Showcasing solutions in public-private partnership for development"

From 3 to 6 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber:
Round table on "Showcasing solutions in disaster-risk reduction and climate change"

Thursday, 18 December 2008

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber:
Round table on "Showcasing solutions in poverty alleviation"

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 7:
Round table on "Increasing effectiveness of South-South cooperation for development" — a workshop for practitioners of South-South and triangular cooperation

Friday, 19 December 2008

From 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Trusteeship Council Chamber:
Round table on "The role of media in development"

[All are invited to attend. For further information, please contact Ms. Dingding Sun, Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, UNDP (tel. 1 (212) 906-5819; e-mail dingding.sun@undp.org); or visit the Web site of the Special Unit <http://ssc.undp.org>.]

UNITAR Migration and Development Series — Panel discussion on the occasion of International Migrants Day on the theme "The human rights of migrants: Facilitating migrants' participation in national and international affairs" (organized by UNITAR, in collaboration with IOM, UNFPA, International IDEA, the Center for Migration Studies and the MacArthur Foundation)

Thursday, 18 December 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 8.

[All are invited to attend. For further information and registration, please visit <www.unitarny.org/en/migrantsday08.html>; or contact Ms. Sarah Rosengaertner, UNITAR (room DC1-603; tel. 1 (212) 963-9684; e-mail rosengaertner@un.org).]

Panel discussion on "Principles into action: Ten years of the Guiding Principles on International Displacement", to mark the launching of a new global campaign (organized by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons)

Thursday, 18 December 2008, from 12.30 to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 2.

[All are invited to attend. For further information, please contact Mr. Patrick Egloff, OCHA (tel. 1 (212) 963-8268; e-mail egloffp@un.org); or Mr. Scott Garth, OCHA (tel. 1 (917) 367-8254; e-mail garth@un.org).]

High-level panel discussion on "Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity" (organized by the Permanent Missions of Argentina, Brazil, Croatia, France, Gabon, the Netherlands and Norway)

Thursday, 18 December 2008, from 1 to 2.30 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

[All are invited to attend. For further information, please contact Ms. Nabila Habbida, Permanent Mission of France (tel. 1 (646) 839-6659; e-mail nabila.habbida@diplomatie.gouv.fr); or Ms. Floor Boekhorst, Permanent Mission of the Netherlands (tel. 1 (212) 519-5738; e-mail floor.boekhorst@minbuza.nl).]

Preparations for the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women: Extension of deadline for submission of names of expert panellists

In preparation for the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (2–13 March 2009), delegations are invited to propose names of expert panellists to participate in two panel discussions on the following themes: (a) Key policy initiatives and innovative approaches to promote the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS; and (b) Capacity building for mainstreaming a gender perspective into national policies and programmes to

support the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS. Delegations are requested to submit names indicating the panel for which the expert(s) is (are) being nominated and to provide curricula vitae outlining the specific expertise and experience of the proposed candidate in relation to the theme of the panel. Information should be sent to the Division for the Advancement of Women (e-mail jagwanth@un.org or williams-carter@un.org; fax 1 (212) 963-3463), no later than *Friday, 19 December 2008*. Further details on the panel discussions will be made available at <www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/53sess.htm#interactive>.

Security Council

Web site of the presidency

The Web site of the presidency of the Security Council can be visited at <www.un.org/sc/presidency.asp>.

Recorded information

Recorded information about previously unscheduled meetings and consultations of the whole of the Security Council may be obtained by calling 1 (212) 963-8530, or by clicking on "Daily Programme" on the Web site of the Security Council <www.un.org/Docs/sc>.

Prepared statements

Speakers in the Security Council are advised that providing in advance copies of prepared statements which they intend to read out in the Council greatly facilitates the work of the Secretariat by permitting a sufficient number of copies to be distributed to all meeting participants and by assisting interpreters, verbatim reporters and press officers in maintaining the quality of the product delivered. Both interpretations and verbatim records rely upon the statement actually delivered, but copies of texts help interpreters to correctly render details and nuances and help verbatim reporters to produce the written record more quickly. Speakers are therefore encouraged, whenever possible, to provide copies of their statements, as early as possible in advance of delivery, to the Conference Officer in the Chamber.

Delegations are kindly requested to make 40 copies for minimum distribution to Council members and relevant services, and 200 additional copies for general distribution in the Security Council Chamber.

Delegations wishing to make statements available for the media are kindly requested to deliver 50 copies to the Media Documents Centre (room S-394).

Access to back issues of the *Journal of the United Nations*

Back issues of the *Journal of the United Nations*, in English and French, can be accessed at the following addresses: <www.un.org/ga/search/journal.asp> and <www.un.org/french/ga/search/journal.asp>.

[All comments and suggestions about the daily *Journal* are welcomed. Kindly contact the Journal Unit at journal@un.org.]

Summary of official meetings

Monday, 15 December 2008

Security Council

6043rd meeting[1] *Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council*

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The Council began its consideration of the item and heard briefings by Ambassador Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006); Ambassador Dumisani Shadrack Kumalo, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa; Ambassador R.M. Marty Muliana Natalegawa, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations; Ambassador Jan Grauls, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006); and Ambassador Ricardo Alberto Arias, Chairman of the Security Council Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions.

6044th meeting (closed) *Peace and security in Africa*

The Security Council met in private. At the close of the meeting, the following communiqué was issued by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

"At its 6044th meeting, held in private on 15 December 2008, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'Peace and security in Africa'.

"The meeting was presided over by His Excellency Mr. Ivo Sanader, Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, in his capacity as the President of the Security Council.

"The Secretary-General, His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon, made a statement.

?His Excellency The Right Honourable Mr. David Miliband, M.P., Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Her Excellency Ms. Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State of the United States of America, and other members of the Council had an exchange of views."

[1] The 6043rd meeting was suspended temporarily due to an evacuation of the Security Council Chamber following a fire alarm.

General Assembly

Sixty-third session

69th plenary meeting

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit: specific meeting focused on development . . . . . [107]

The General Assembly resumed its consideration of agenda item 107 to hold, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006, a specific meeting focused on development, including an assessment of progress over the previous year.

The Deputy Secretary-General made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of France (on behalf of the European Union and those countries that aligned themselves with the statement), Honduras, Pakistan, Kazakhstan and Cuba.

The General Assembly thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 107.

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization: draft resolution (A/63/L.39/Rev.1) . . . . . [114 (i)]

The General Assembly resumed its consideration of sub-item (i) of agenda item 114.

The General Assembly adopted draft resolution A/63/L.53 (resolution 63/144).

The General Assembly thus concluded its consideration of sub-item (i) of agenda item 114.

The President made an appeal to those Member States intending to submit draft resolutions on the remaining sub-items of agenda item 114, to do so as soon as possible.

Programme of work

The General Assembly decided to postpone the date of recess of the current session to Monday, 22 December 2008.

The General Assembly decided to extend the work of the Fifth Committee until Monday, 22 December 2008.

Main Committees

Fifth Committee

23rd meeting

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 . . . . . [130]

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 . . . . . [131]

The Committee began its consideration of these agenda items.

The Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division introduced the reports of the Secretary-General (A/63/558, A/63/559 and A/62/809).

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions introduced the related reports of that Committee (A/63/595 and A/62/7/Add.38).

Statements were made by the representatives of France (on behalf of the European Union), Rwanda (on behalf of the African Group), the United States, Cuba and Chile.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion of these items.

The Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on these items would begin on that day, Monday, 15 December, following the adjournment of the formal meeting, in Conference Room 5, under the chairmanship Ms. Elsa Cristina de Jesus Pataca (Angola).

Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 . . . . . [118]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division introduced the report of the Secretary-General (A/63/154).

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions introduced the related report of that Committee (A/63/594).

Statements were made by the representatives of France (on behalf of the European Union), Switzerland (also on behalf of Liechtenstein) and Japan.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion of this question.

The Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on this question would be held in conjunction with other reports on revised estimates and statements of programme budget implications before the Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Henric Råsbrant (Sweden), Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

Programme planning . . . . . [119]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item and had before it draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.4, which had been coordinated by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Chairman.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item at this stage.

Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency . . . . . [127]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item and had before it draft decision A/C.5/63/L.3 submitted by the Chairman.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft decision.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

General Assembly
Security Council

Peacebuilding Commission
Third session

Sierra Leone configuration

1st meeting

The Chairman, H.E. Mr. Frank Majoor (Netherlands), declared open the first Sierra Leone country-specific meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission and made a statement.

Adoption of the agenda . . . . . [1]

The Commission had before it the provisional agenda, as contained in document PBC/3/SLE/1.

The Chairman made a statement.

The Commission adopted the provisional agenda.

Biannual review of the Sierra Leone Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework (PBC/3/SLE/L.1) . . . . . [2]

The Chairman made a statement.

The Commission adopted the "Draft conclusions and recommendations of the second biannual review of the implementation of the Sierra Leone Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework" (PBC/3/SLE/L.1).

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone, H.E. Mrs. Zainab Hawa Bangura, made a statement.

Mr. Michael Schulenburg, Executive Representative of the Secretary-General in Sierra Leone, made a statement.

The Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Political Affairs made a statement.

The Assistant Secretary-General for the Peacebuilding Support Office made a statement.

Mr. Moustapha Soumare, Acting Regional Director of the Africa Bureau, UNDP, made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom, France (on behalf of the European Union), Brazil, Guinea, Pakistan, the United States and Canada.

The Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Sierra Leone, H.E. Mr. David Carew, made a statement.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone, H.E. Mrs. Zainab Hawa Bangura, made a statement.

The Chairperson made a concluding statement.

Other matters . . . . . [3]

No other matters were raised.

Signatures, Ratifications, etc.

[Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General]

International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006. Geneva, 27 January 2006

Signature: Slovenia (15 December 2008)

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. New York, 13 December 2006

Ratification: Sweden (15 December 2008)[1]

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. New York, 13 December 2006

Ratification: Sweden (15 December 2008)[1]

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. New York, 18 December 2002

Ratification: Chile (12 December 2008)[1]

[1]Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

General Information

Chairmen of regional groups

The following information regarding the chairmanship of the regional groups for the month of *December 2008* has been communicated to the Secretariat:

African States:
Morocco
H.E. Mr. Mohammed Loulichki

Asian States:
Thailand
H.E. Mr. Don Pramudwinai

Eastern European States:
Czech Republic
H.E. Mr. Martin Palouš

Latin American and Caribbean States:
Colombia
H.E. Ms. Claudia Blum

Western European and other States:
Israel
H.E. Ms. Gabriela Shalev

With the exception of sales publications and public information material, hyperlinked official documents listed hereunder may be accessed through the Official Document System of the United Nations in the electronic version of the present Journal. The list contains documents issued by 2 p.m. on Monday, 15 December 2008.

Symbol	*Main title*
General Assembly	**Official Records**
	Sixty-second session
A/62/49 (Vol. II)	Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the General Assembly during its sixty-second session — Volume II — Decisions — 18 September – 22 December 2007 — Supplement No. 49 [German]
	Sixty-third session
	Sixth Committee
A/C.6/63/SR.11	Meeting held on 21 October 2008, 10 a.m. [A C E F R S]
General Assembly	**Documents**
	Sixty-third session
A/63/97/Add.2	Item 81 — Reduction of military budgets — Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures — Report of the Secretary-General [A C E F R S]
A/63/346/Add.1	Item 118 — Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 — Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council — Thematic cluster I. Special and personal envoys, special advisers and personal representatives of the Secretary-General and Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon — Report of the Secretary-General [A C E F R S]
A/63/541/Add.1	Items 58 and 118 — Report of the Human Rights Council — Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 — Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its ninth session — Report of the Secretary-General [A C E F R S]
A/63/546/Corr.1	Item 139 — Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea — Revised budget for the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 — Report of the Secretary-General [A C E F R S]
A/63/550	Item 132 — Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations — Comprehensive review of the compensation of death and disability benefits to military contingents, formed police units, military observers and civilian police officers — Report of the Secretary-General [A C E F R S]
A/63/583	Items 64 (e) and 118 — Promotion and protection of human rights: Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities — Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 — Revised estimates resulting from the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto — Report of the Secretary-General [A C E F R S]

A/63/603–S/2008/775 Item 89 — General and complete disarmament — Identical letters dated 9 December 2008 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council [A C E F R S]

A/63/L.25/Rev.1/Add.1 Item 107 — Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit — Australia, Austria, Benin, Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Lesotho, Lithuania, Madagascar, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay: revised draft resolution — Legal empowerment of the poor and eradication of poverty —Antigua and Barbuda, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Hungary, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Philippines, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland and United States of America [A C E F R S]

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A/63/603–S/2008/775	Identical letters dated 9 December 2008 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council [A C E F R S]
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Communications to the Editor

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